



FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1996

A MINT JULEP SUMMER

For Summer '96, designers take a cool approach with easy, yet sophisticated silhouettes. These collections are comfortable, packable, and readily make the transition from day into night. Cool colors prevail, in icy shades of blues and greens, although true reds pop up here and there, often paired with black or white. Soft stripes and watercolor florals are the prints of the season.

SYLVIA HEISEL presents an elegant collection with luxurious fabrics. Elongated jackets in 4-ply silk crepe mix with wide legged pants and sleeveless dresses. In pale pastel chiffons, soft wide stripes are layered together in opposite directions for some of the best dresses of the season. A watercolor floral pattern plays off the stripes, or is paired with solid pants in stretch satin. Pearls appear throughout the collection, as the buttons on a jacket or to trim the hem of a dress.

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SHOWTIME — SUMMER SIZZLE

TRADE SHOWS HIGHLIGHTS

From INTERNATIONAL FASHION BOUTIQUE, FAE, ACCESSORIE CIRCUIT/INTERMEZZO and STYLEWORKS — outstanding resources, offering up-to-the-minute Summer merchandise.

ACCESSORIE CIRCUIT/ INTERMEZZO COLLECTIONS

PACO & CELESTE combine sharp black and white in a range of structured patent leather handbags and totes. TOTE LE MONDE's crinkled lightweight stainless steel bags are truly unique and attractive enough to be used as objets d'art. The elegant natural linen handbags,

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with cafe leather trim that convert to backpacks, are other attractive choices. At GERARD YOSCA, the jewelry takes on a vintage Edwardian appearance with delicate hand carved glass flowers, Austrian crystals and freshwater pearls. At KASADA, there are twill and crepe suitings and separates. This new bridge resource is created by a former Anne Klein designer, so the look is chic, hip, career oriented. At SU-ZEN there are exquisitely made Summer layering pieces in tissue weight linen/cotton, prewashed Irish linen, viscose, pique, gingham, and "denim" look linen. The details are striking and set the collection apart. Buttons are fashioned from bone, vegetable ivory, coconut, wood or are pictorial covered. NEW FRONTIER does soft dressing as well as constructed pieces in Tencel solids and checks. The structured leather flap backpack with outside pockets and Bugatti bag in micro nylon at LIZ K are designed to keep the busy executive well organized. Silk chiffon and charmeuse scarves in vivid brights look right on target at SUSAN LAZAR. At LAURA VOGEL, jewelry takes a Mod direction with clean simple shapes in oxidized silver and brass mixed with pale pastel stones. Trendy handbag designer KATE SPADE doesn't disappoint. There are small structured shapes and large shoppers. Cotton florals, canvas and linen, terry, satin/nylon and Ultrasuede are the materials used. Handbags in sculptural shapes look elegant in offbeat leather tones at HAN FENG. For Fall she proposes texture and fabric mixes in jewel toned scarves and shawls and a

MORGAN & CLYDE



continuation of sculptural silhouettes for handbags. Totes look chic at MORGAN & CLYDE. The natural weave buttoned, bucket shapes and the chocolate/natural patterned straws are outstanding. All are hand-crafted in Java, and feature unique ornamentation such as roses crafted from banana leaves, hand carved buttons, etc.

FASHION ACCESSORY EXPO

The modified cat's eye shaped sunglasses in mock tortoise and the matte finished metal frames look smart at VISTA SUNGLASSES. MEGUSTA shows vintage '20s and Victorian-inspired one-of-a-kind pretty knit hats. The white-on-white jewelry at MONSOON is lovely. Cubic zirconia, opals, pearls and moonstones are set in sterling or vermeil, and fashioned into pendants, brooches, earrings and



LIZ K.

bracelets. Fused hand blown glass, Swarovski crystal, amber, precious metals and mesh are the elements in KATYA's jewelry. She also debuted a new range of table top accessories that take their inspiration from nature and classical mythology. For the trendy customer, RATIONAL DRESS shows nylon packcloth and pearlized patent handbags in terrific brights. Subdued neutrals are key at THE SAK. In addition to their popular hand crocheted nylon bags, there are now matching casual hats. Fine Italian

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DESIGNER FOCUS. . .

WESTCOTT FENASCI

Carla Westcott and Gene Fenasci share a common Southern heritage, but their elegant and couture late day to evening designs exude more of a European cum-New York aura. Perhaps it's the subtle sophisticated silhouettes that seem to flow and envelop the form with graceful femininity; or the impeccable cut and flawless tailoring. It could also be the deliberately limited sophisticated palette that for Spring/Summer encompasses black, white and

marine. "I do the sketches for the designs, since I tend to think in two dimensions: Gene is a genius with fabrics," explains Westcott. "He comes from the Balenciaga school where as I'm more Comme des Garçons. So we meet halfway with feminine designs that are also minimalist and functional," she adds. Their prior work experience was also balanced though diverse: Westcott worked at everything from the music industry to Barneys and various Seventh Avenue fashion houses; while Fenasci's background was predominately retail-related with

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"MINT JULEP" continued from page 1

At **RANDY KEMPER**, an urban influence combines with a youthful spirit. Sleek suits and dresses are in silk shantung, as icy pastels of blue and green mix with white. Tops, from abbreviated to oversized menswear looks, are also available in paisley or striped, cotton sateen, voile and silk crepe. Other styles include sexy ribbed pieces in 100% spun silk.

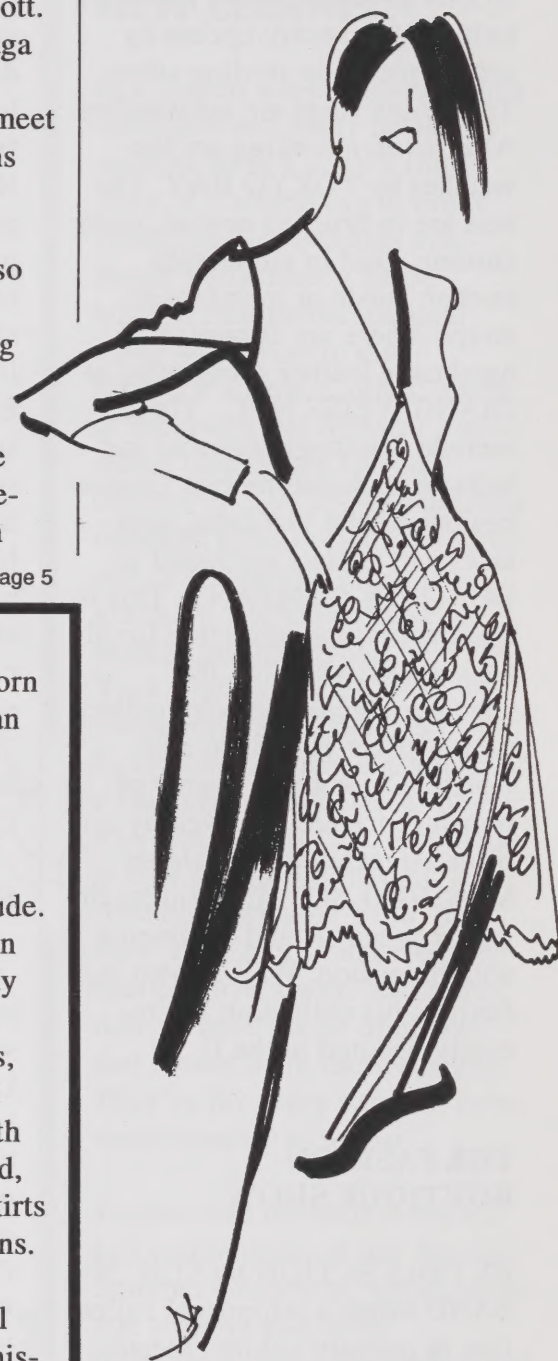
For **HINO & MALEE II**, shapes are easy and the feeling is light. One hundred percent cotton gauze is in aqua, ginger, black or white. Signature pieces, like the wrap around seam top, pair with new shapes such as the cropped slim pant. A low plunging V-neck jumpsuit has a modern look over matching or contrasting tank. Another group features variegated rayon/acetate

stripes, in henna or charcoal. Here, the cropped jackets, worn with wide pants, have an urban appeal.

JUSSARA LEE has a simple collection with pared down shapes and just the right attitude. Lightweight cotton knits are in solid red, black or white. Body conscious dresses have waist variations with scooped necks, crisscrossed backs, halter and polo styles. Suits are Mod with tapered jackets, some zippered, and slim pants; white short skirts and shorts complete the options.

At **EILEEN FISHER**, a casual attitude doesn't sacrifice sophistication. Soft jackets and easy pants are in sandwashed silk corded crepe, in varying shades of green — aloe, kelp, and deep sea. Dresses are generally flared

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"SHOWTIME-SUMMER" continued from page 2

hand-crafted nappa handbags and accessories by GENTLEMAN DUCK debuted at the FAE. There are chic functional totes, backpacks, carry-on bags, slings and framed bags in this extensive collection. LORI BONN gave her amber jewelry a bold contemporary update by setting pieces in sterling silver. The unisex rings are outstanding. Also modern looking are the watches by TOKYO BAY. The best are in brushed pewter, matte chrome, gold or silver with leather, suede or metal mesh straps. There are charming handmade leather accessories at DIANE WEISS NYC. These include handbags, agendas and belts with animal motifs. Unique beaded crystal bracelets, necklaces and anklets are found at DUNITZ & COMPANY. This is a fun accessory collection for all ages. STREAMLINE INC. shows a stunning jewelry collection in silver combined with plastic. Color and a degree of translucence are achieved by a patented technique. Designer MOSHIKO BOTSER bridges the gap between art and commerce with his vision. Well-known in Europe, his collection has recently debuted in the U.S.

THE FASHION BOUTIQUE SHOW

FX COLLECTION by SUN 'N' SAND offers a whimsical collection in primary colored patents. For the contemporary customer there are "Paint Tube" backpacks, "Traffic Sign" shoulder totes, "Taxi Cab" zip-top camera bags with attached "For Hire" change purses, and retro '60s

"Sunflowers" shoulder bags. The handbags also look great at BRADY - ARCHMENT, in particular the retro-inspired zip-top pastels, bi-colored fabric bags, top handled satchels and "Fatigue" bags. CHATEAU ANNE U.S.A. had cute zip-top mini totes with the French flag and Eiffel Tower motif embroidered on the front. There are loads of fun colors to choose from — the orange is a winner! HEAD DRESS shows pretty ponytail holders. We like the patent camellias in two-tone black/white or pastel gingham checks. MILK FED has appealing item dressing for Summer. Especially cute are the tee shirts, stretch twill jeans and polyester slip dresses. At WHITTALL & SHON, the best group is a bold black and white tropical print, particularly a ribbed tee and short print skirt. At 100F, a contemporary Canadian sportswear firm, there are some chic "Prada" type jackets in mauve iridescent or warm coral luster nylon.

STYLEWORKS

At ZZ SILK there are 15 new colors in pure silk knit twin sweater sets to suit every taste. LA CHEMISE BLANCE debuts in the U.S. with an elegant white blouse collection. There are gorgeous linens with oversized collars and French cuffs. CYNTHIA ROWLEY KNITWEAR shows easy Summer pieces in mercerized cotton or Ponte de Roma. This new division is affordable, youthful, fresh. There is casual weekend wear at KAREN KANE. The line is mainly denim and knit, with some fun twists on the classics.

HOT KNOTS shows sweaters handmade from the finest linen/cotton/rayon yarns in offbeat tints of willow, sage, rose, wisteria and natural. This is one of the loveliest collections around.

The addresses for the above mentioned companies may be obtained by calling the individual shows for their directories. Upcoming show dates and telephone numbers for each of the trade events are listed below:

ACCESSORIE CIRCUIT/
INTERMEZZO, 212-759-8055.
Next show date: 5/5-7

FASHION ACCESSORY
EXPO, 203-852-0500.
Next show date: 5/5-7

INTERNATIONAL FASHION
BOUTIQUE, 212-594-0880.
Next show date: 3/16-19.

STYLEWORKS, 212-741-3653.
Next show date: 2/24-26; 5/5-7

DON'T MISS THIS NEW EXHIBITION
SHOE DREAMS
DESIGNS BY ANDREA PFISTER
AT
THE MUSEUM AT F.I.T.
SEVENTH AVENUE &
27TH STREET, NYC
FEB. 7 - APRIL 20
300 SHOES FROM
ANTIQUE TO CONTEMPORARY
FEATURING FOOTWEAR BY
CAPEZIO, EVINS, FERRAGAMO, LEVINE.
PERUGIA, PFISTER, VIVIER & OTHERS

experience in buying and management. So, they were mature students when they both enrolled at Parsons School of Design, where they met. Since its launch in March 1995, the Westcott Fenasci label has experienced stellar success. Prestigious retailers such as Saks Fifth Avenue, Neiman Marcus, Bergdorf Goodman, and Barneys Japan have sought them out. Harrods is currently featuring their designs exclusively in London, soon to be joined by Selfridges.

Exotic Maui and an interest in scuba diving were the inspiration for their current Spring/Summer collection as well as a remarkable video that features models wearing the collection, while performing an aquatic ballet. The fluid fabrications range from matte jersey and satin-faced silk organza to triple silk georgette, silk charmeuse, and double-faced silk charmeuse. Detailing incorporates satin horizontal banding and trim, Swarovski crystals and lace overskirts on dresses, and two-piece ensembles that hover at the knee, flow to mid calf or graze the ankle. Standouts include the ladylike matte jersey 22" tank dress, with Duchesse satin horizontal banding and shoulder straps, that pairs with a matching easy coat; the long sleeveless matte Jersey column that shimmers with a geometric all over pattern of Swarovski crystals (also available with only a crystal adorned bodice); and the romantic matte jersey mid calf dress that incorporates a delicate shorter overskirt of Chantilly lace — heavenly!



THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES

530 Seventh Ave., 20th fl.
New York, N.Y. 10018
Phone: 212-768-9794;
Fax: 212-768-9856
Wholesale: \$225-\$2200

THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES

In a season where there is much sameness and many designers seem to be in a sixty's time warp, it's refreshing to find a collection that remains unaffected by fashion's fickle whims: East melds harmoniously with West in the Emperor's New Clothes, a line of separates and dresses, introduced three years ago and created by talented Minneapolis resident, Dina Fesler. A University of Minneapolis fashion graduate, she has worked for several fashion houses in New York. Her subtle yet evident Asian inspiration derives from Hong Kong, where she taught at a fashion institute. Here she met Kan Xin, a former student, who is now her design partner. According to Maggie York, her New York representative, she excites buyers with her collection: "There's a lot of energy that comes from these designs. They're for every woman, from contemporary to missy."

Texture and luscious color are key components of this Spring/Summer collection, where multi-hue striping and vivid iridescence make the perfect foil for crinkled silk, sheer and boucle silks, and quilted or chenille cottons. Other fabrics include silks that go from ottoman and canvas to organza, a

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For those who believe that fashion folk are removed from the needs of others, it certainly makes me happy to relate just a few of the many and varied fashion industry benefits.

NEIMAN MARCUS is hosting a charity Easter Egg Auction. The sale of 300 beautifully decorated one-of-a-kind eggs, created by celebrities who include designers, actors, and politicians, will benefit the Easter Seal Society for Children, Childhaven, Childhelp

USA, The Ronald McDonald House, and the Loyola Council for Women's Health. Among those designers participating in this worthy event are Joseph Abboud, Geoffrey Beene, and Bill Blass. The 5 auctions, to be held in Dallas, St. Louis, Newport Beach, McClean Virginia, and Oakbrook Illinois, are scheduled for March 3, 9, 26, 29 and April 21 respectively. Contact: Jodie Corley/Ashley Hanna, 214-573-5778/5864

The Centennial Olympic Games Hanes T-shirt sponsored auction, surpassed \$500,000 in funds raised to date. The auction, featuring a

limited edition series of individually numbered Hanes "Beefy-T" T-shirts (one for each of the 500 days leading up to the Olympics), is underwritten entirely by Hanes. The monies will be divided between the Children's Olympic Ticket Fund and the U.S. Olympic Team. Through these contributions, thousands of underprivileged children will receive tickets to the Games. The auction takes place each day in Atlanta, but for those unable to attend, a silent bid can be made by calling 404-880-5286 or by writing: Centennial Olympic Games Hanes T-Shirt Auction, 225

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"DESIGNER FOCUS" continued from page 5
variety of cotton interpretations including Swiss embroidered linen, and cotton/viscose tapes. Delicate silk frog closures and tassels act as a distinctive accent. Setting a different, yet equally elegant mood, is the neutral palette that encompasses smoke/honey, buff, oyster, bisque, white and ivory. In place of traditional ready-to-wear fabrics, many fabrics in the collection come from the interior design market.

Vests form an important core for the line. They are featured in a variety of styles and fabrics,

from buff embroidered linen to gold German tapestry and honey handwoven silk. Jackets range from short peplum versions, with long or short sleeves, to capacious deconstructed styles that are extremely flattering. Skirts run the gamut from short with a full or slim silhouette to long and slim. Also available are slim pants or shorts. Sheaths are short and shapely. All can be mixed and matched and layered to change the mood. Standouts include the ivory crinkled silk Doupioni long skirt with matching tasseled bandeau, topped by a silk stripe organza kimono-like jacket; and the white sheer

cotton/poly blend shawl-collared jacket that fits and flares from the belt, and doubles as a dress. This silhouette is also available in bright stripes in a group that includes slim pants, short wrap-and-tie jacket, slim skirt and a long slim off-the-shoulder jacket with short sleeves. This fitted jacket is accented with frog closures.

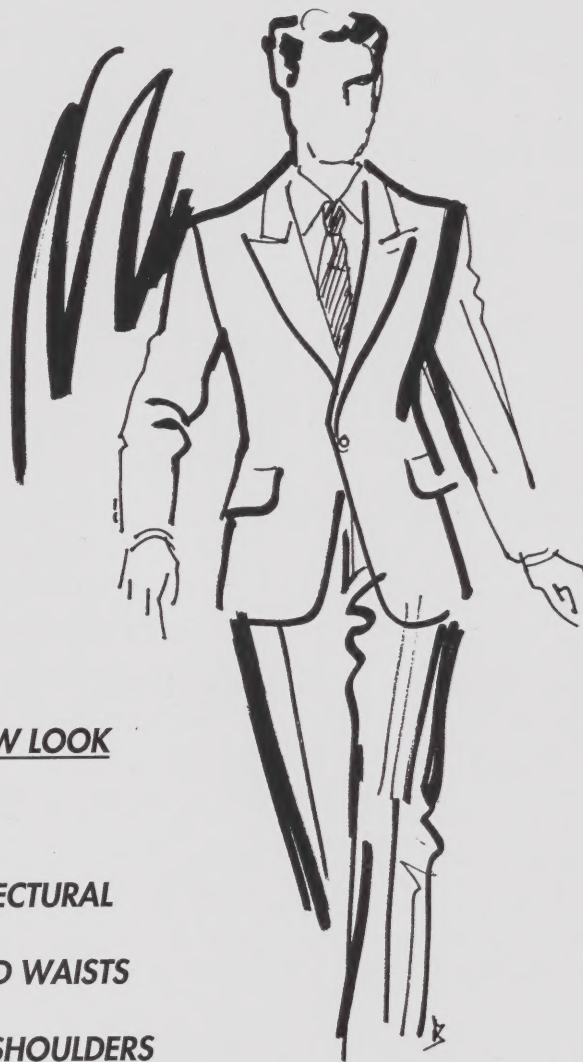
c/o Maggie York
214 West 39th St., Suite 1004
New York, N.Y. 10018
Phone: 212-827-0521;
Fax: 212-827-0602
Wholesale: \$89-\$249

Peachtree St. NE, Suite 2300,
Atlanta, GA 30303. You may
bid for a particular day or
place a standing bid good for
any T-shirt on any day.
Contact: Cohn & Wolfe,
404-880-5244

The Transition Center, a shelter for abused women and their children, operated under the Jewish Board of Family & Children's Services, was the ACRYLIC COUNCIL's 1995 charity of choice. In the final presentation of The Accent on Acrylic 1995 Fall Fashion Mall Tour, an eight week tour showcasing upscale acrylic garments for men, women and children in markets across the country, a donation of these garments was made to the charity. The donation included dresses, sleepwear, sweaters, and outerwear. Barbara Harris, Director of the Transition Center, thanked the many manufacturers and designers, among them More Dash Than Cash, Fritz-California and Fundamental Things: "This donation means so much to us. At a time when people come to us with so little because they literally have to run for their lives, it lets them know that there are people out there who care."

Contact: Susan & Company,
516-759-4475

FALL/WINTER MENSWEAR PREVIEW



THE NEW LOOK

SLIM

ARCHITECTURAL

TAPERED WAISTS

FITTED SHOULDERS

**FEW AND/OR
HIDDEN BUTTONS**

DEEP COLORS

CALVIN KLEIN

INTERNATIONAL DATELINE

FEB. 19-MARCH 1 NEW YORK
FALL I MARKET

FEB. 24-26 NEW YORK
PREMIERE COLLECTIONS &
CANADA MODE (Womenswear)

FEB. 24-26 NEW YORK
STYLEWORKS (Womenswear)

FEB. 24-26 NEW YORK
INT'L JEANSWEAR & SPORTSWEAR SHOW

FEB. 25-27 NEW YORK
FASHION COTERIE (Womenswear)

FEB. 25-27 NEW YORK
SHOWROOM (Womenswear)

FEB. 28-MAR. 2 LONDON
FALL DESIGNER SHOWS
(Women's)

FEB. 29-MAR. 2 BOCA RATON
CTFA (Cosmetics, Fragrances, Toiletries Assoc.)

MARCH 1-3 FLORENCE
PRATO EXPO (Apparel Textiles)

MARCH 1-5 MILAN
MODA MILANO (Womenswear)

MARCH 1-8 MILAN
FALL DESIGNER SHOWS
(Women's)

MARCH 3-5 ALICANTE
EXPOCALZADO (Int'l Footwear)

MARCH 4-6 MILAN
MODA IN (Apparel Textiles, Trim-
mings)

MARCH 4-7 COMO
IDEABIELLA (Textiles)

MARCH 7-10 BOLOGNA
MICAM (Shoes)

MARCH 8-11 HOUSTON
THE TRAVELGOODS LEATHER
& ACCESSORIES SHOW

MARCH 8-11 PARIS
PREMIERE VISION (Fabrics)

MARCH 8-11 PARIS
INDIGO (Textiles)

MARCH 10-12 DUSSELDORF
IGEDO (Men's/Women's Fashions)

MARCH 11-13 NEW YORK
INTIMATE APPAREL SALON

MARCH 11-15 NEW YORK
INTIMATE APPAREL MARKET

MARCH 12-14 FRANKFURT
INTERSTOFF WORLD (Fabrics)

MARCH 12-20 PARIS
FALL DESIGNER SHOWS

MARCH 13-16 COMO
IDEACOMO (Apparel Textiles)

MARCH 14-17 MILAN
MIPEL (Leathergoods)

MARCH 14-17 LAUSANNE
COMISPEL (Leather & Fur Apparel)

MARCH 15-17 LAS VEGAS
BOBBIN SHOW

MARCH 15-18 MIAMI
SUMMER/EARLY FALL MARKET

MARCH 16-19 NEW YORK
INT'L FASHION BOUTIQUE SHOW

MARCH 17-20 NEW YORK
INT'L KIDS FASHION SHOW

MARCH 18-20 NEW YORK
INT'L FASHION FABRIC EXHIBITION

MARCH 22-24 DALLAS
HOTLINES DALLAS (Women's)

MARCH 25-29 NEW YORK
BRIDAL MARKET

MAR. 25-APR. 19 NEW YORK
NEW YORK FALL MARKET

MARCH 27-APR. 2 NEW YORK
DESIGNER FALL SHOWS

GROUPS IN NEW YORK FOR FALL I

AMERICAN DESIGNERS AT THE
WALDORF (2/24)

DESIGNERS AT THE ESSEX HOUSE
(2/24)

DIANNE E (2/24)

PACIFIC DESIGNERS (2/25)

CREATIVE BRITISH KNITWEAR (2/25)

"MINT JULEP" continued from page 3
and high-waisted in long or
short lengths. Another group
features similar bodies and
mixes crinkled linen, rayon and
cotton tencel denim in red,
indigo or chestnut. Soft handknit
sweaters finish off the group in a
linen/cotton boucle.

JOANNA MASTROIANI

creates a lovely collection of suits
and dresses that easily go from
lunch to dinner. Cotton/silk
brocade suits are in brilliant
shades of turquoise, purple, navy
and fuchsia with jackets that nip
the waist and slim matching
skirts. Beautiful beading and
reembroidered lace details show
up as trim on many of the jackets.
Sexy dresses include brightly
colored cotton pieces with patent
belts and inverted pleat detail,
and a halter dress in a 4-ply silk
with a short bias cut skirt.

Publisher: Ruth Finley
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Editor: Deborah Brumfield
Associate

Editor: Maria Carzis Boyes
Copy Editor: Elizabeth Garcia
Contributors: Bridget Biggane, NY
Debby de Montfort, NY
Lee Slaughter, NY/PARIS

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